



Bluffton Police Department

DATE: March 30, 2016

RELEASE NUMBER: 16-26

Alcohol Compliance Checks

Who:

Bluffton Police Department and South Carolina Law Enforcement Agency

What:

Alcohol Compliance Checks

Where:

Bluffton Bars/Restaurants/Stores

When:

Tuesday, March 29, 2016

On Tuesday, March 29, 2016, members of the Bluffton Police Department Special Investigations Unit assisted the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division in a second round of alcohol compliance checks at various businesses in Bluffton.

Two weeks ago BPD and SLED also conducted alcohol compliance checks at various Bluffton establishments. Those checks resulted in four businesses receiving criminal and administrative citations. Yesterday fifteen establishments were checked, and only one, Supermercado Mexican Store at 21 Simmonsville Road, was cited. Bluffton Police gave a criminal citation to the clerk at Supermercado Mexican Store who sold the alcohol to the underage individual. The store owner was issued an administrative violation by SLED.

The businesses that were checked yesterday and followed the law by asking for identification from the individual working for SLED include: Belfair Fine Wine and Spirits, New York Pizza, Kroger, Towne Drive, Amigos Café, R-Bar, Walnuts Café, Sigler's Rotisserie, La Huasteca, Super Internacional Grocery, Supermercado ABC, La Casita, Nickelpumpers, Agave Side Bar, and Bluffton BBQ.

"We are pleased with this outcome compared to the check two weeks ago. There was only one business that did not check for identification. While we would have preferred all the businesses to follow the law, one being cited is much better than when four were cited on March 16th," said Major Joseph Manning, Bluffton Police Department.

Bluffton Police assist SLED and the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office when alcohol compliance checks are completed within the Town. These checks are a type of environmental prevention that deters alcohol outlets from selling alcohol to underage youth. If during a compliance check youth are able to successfully buy from the establishment, the business is cited.

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